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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Sanitary Inspector

1948

The Urban District of Eston.

Chairman of the Council:
ALDERMAN JAMES FINEGAN

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:
COUNCILLOR JOHN E. GINTY

Committee:
The whole of the Members of the Council constitute the
Public Health Committee.
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Medical Officer of Health:
JAMES A. DUNLOP, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:
WILLIAM LINSLEY, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., R.Pc.
(Certified Meat & Food) (Retired 30.6.48)
JAMES H. BURROWS, M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A.,
(Certified Meat & Food) (Appointed 1.8.48)

*Additional Sanitary Inspectors:
JAMES H. BURROWS, M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A.,
(Until 31.7.48)
WILLIAM VERRILL, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (Certified Meat & Food)
LESLIE CORNFORTH, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Certified Meat & Food) (Appointed 20.12.48)

Clerks: Terence Bruen.
Miss M. Colwell
Miss E. Lister

Matron of Infectious Diseases Hospital:
Miss J. Arthur

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ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1948

To the Chairman and Members of the
Eston Urban District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report on the health of this district for the year 1948.

With regard to the Vital Statistics for the year—all the main rates—Birth, Death and Infantile Mortality, show a decline as compared with the previous year. The fall in the Death Rate is of no special significance, and while it should be appreciated that in a relatively small community such as this, there may be considerable fluctuation in the Infantile Mortality Rate, nevertheless it is gratifying to report that this year the number of children dying in the first year of life was 45 per thousand births as compared with 61 per thousand in the previous year. Of the 35 infants who actually died during the year, 7 died of prematurity and 11 died of Pneumonia. The premature infant should be in a maternity home and the infant with Pneumonia should be in a special hospital for Sick Children—these two factors emphasise what I have stressed in previous years, namely, the great need in this area for better Maternity Home facilities and also a better hospital service for infants and children.

History will probably regard the year 1948 as one of the most momentous in the development of the Public Health Services since on the 5th July the National Health Services Act, 1946, came into operation. This Act made sweeping changes, amongst the most important of which were (1) The transfer of Hospitals to Regional Hospital Boards; (2) The transfer of all the major Health Services to County Councils and County Borough Councils and (3) The establishment of Executive Councils for the control of the domiciliary medical, dental, ophthalmic and pharmaceutical services. We are still much too near the commencement of this Act to express any serious criticism, but already there are signs that much of the success of the Act will depend on the degree of co-operation that develops between the three bodies I have mentioned above, namely, The Regional Hospital Boards, The County and Borough Councils and the Executive Councils. In so far as this district was concerned, the immediate results of the Act were (1) The transfer of the Isolation Hospital to the Newcastle-on-Tyne Regional Hospital Board with its management vested in the Cleveland Hospital Management Committee and (2) The delegation of the day to day administration of the Local Authority Services—

Care of Mothers and Young Children, Midwifery, Health Visiting, Home Nursing, Vaccination and Immunisation, Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care, and Domestic Helps—by the North Riding Health Committee to the Eston Local Health Sub-committee on which the Eston Urban District Council have 5 representatives. By the end of the year, this Sub-committee (on which are also 4 members of the County Council and 6 co-opted members from Voluntary Organisations in the Urban District) had settled down to the work and had already shown itself to be very much alive to the needs of this area so far as concerns the service for which they are responsible. For the time being the Ambulance Service, other than Infectious Diseases in this district, will be carried out by the local St. John Ambulance Brigade, as agents for the County Council.

As in previous years, I have made such comments as I thought necessary under the various sections of the report.

During the year Mr. Linsley, for 32 years the Senior Sanitary Inspector in this district, entered into a well-merited retirement. I cannot but express my own personal gratitude to Mr. Linsley for the great help he has at all times given me since I commenced duties here in 1935. Our relationship was always of the most cordial and harmonious; by his sound grasp of the work of a Sanitary Inspector, by his deep knowledge of the district, Mr. Linsley's help was at times invaluable and his advice was always given freely and willingly. Mr. Linsley was a loyal, devoted and zealous official of this Council and never spared himself in carrying out his numerous and at times very exacting duties. I feel sure that it will be the wish of all who have benefitted by their association with Mr. Linsley, whether Councillors, Officials or Staff, that he be long spared to enjoy his retirement.

Since the control of the Isolation Hospital, Flatts Lane, passed from this Council in July, I do not think it is out of place to pay tribute here to the fine work that has in the past been done in the Hospital. The high standard of work of the Matron and Staff together with their deep understanding and sympathy endeared them to many residents of our district, and during the years, I was proud to be associated with a hospital which so well deserved the high place it held in the esteem of the inhabitants of this District.

I must again express my gratitude to the Members and Officials of the Council for the cordial help and support I have received from them during the year, and finally, I am most indebted to the Staff of the Health Department for their loyal and willing co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES A. DUNLOP,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Condition of the Area.

Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the district in the mid-year 1948 was 32,540 as compared with an estimate of population for the mid-year 1947 of 31,810.

Registrar General's estimate mid-year 1942	...	...	28,550
" " " " 1943	...	...	28,010
" " " " 1944	...	...	28,810
" " " " 1945	...	...	29,150
" " " " 1946	...	...	31,010
" " " " 1947	...	...	31,810
" " " " 1948	...	...	32,540

GENERAL STATISTICS

I am indebted to the Council's Accountant who has supplied me with the following statistics: —

Area of the district (acres)	5,559
Number of inhabited houses (end 1948) according to Rate Books	8,461
Rateable value (September, 1948)	£140,563
Sum represented by penny rate	£553

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

During the year there has been little unemployment in the main industries in the district. Unemployment with its associated low family income is one of the greatest obstacles to communal health and wellbeing, and it is to be hoped that the present high level of employment continues.

Housing is of course the biggest social problem of to-day. Most of the Housing information is given in that part of the report prepared by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, and while I do not wish to encroach on his report, and while I am well aware that this Council has done its utmost to alleviate the misery and distress caused by overcrowding and other adverse housing conditions, yet I do feel that nothing and no other consideration should be allowed to stand in the way of providing houses for those who so urgently need them. To me the most needy are those: (1) in whose family there is a case of Tuberculosis—here the risk to other members of the family makes rehousing urgent; (2) young newly married couples living in rooms. In this connection I should point out that at the various Welfare Centres I see about

90% of all children born in the district. I can see in the way these infants are clothed and generally cared for that the young mothers of to-day are proving to be excellent mothers, well deserving of every encouragement. It seems a tragedy that such excellent motherhood should have to struggle against overcrowded housing conditions.

Once again from my duties as School Medical Inspector I am in a position to report upon the very good physical condition of the children in the area. The provision of milk and school meals continues to be one of the best social services of to-day.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

Live Births:—

				Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	737	395	342
Illegitimate	...	...	...	40	16	24

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—23.9.

Rate for England and Wales: 17.9.

Still Births:—

				Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	19	7	12
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births: 25.1.

DEATHS

Total	Male	Female
363	200	163

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 11.2.

Rate for England and Wales: 10.8.

Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	45
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	44.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	50

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

The deaths which occurred during the year, divided into age groups, are as follows: —

35 deaths under one year of age.

6	„	over 1 year and under 5 years.	
—	„	5	10
1	„	10	15
6	„	15	25
29	„	25	45
93	„	45	65
120	„	65	75
73	„	over 75 years of age.	

ANALYSIS OF INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1948

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Prematurity	7	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	7
Gastro-Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Asphyxia	1	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia	—	—	1	—	1	4	3	2	1	11
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Septicaemia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Intra-cranial Tumour	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis of Lungs	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Anencephaly	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals	10	1	2	—	13	14	5	2	1	35

CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.
Whooping Cough	1	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	12	8
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	1
Syphilitic diseases	1	1
Measles	1	—
Cancer (all forms)	25	19
Diabetes	1	2
Intracranial vascular lesions	9	17
Heart diseases	61	46
Other diseases of circulatory system	13	8
Bronchitis	15	11
Pneumonia	16	14
Other respiratory diseases	2	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	1
Other digestive diseases	2	5
Nephritis	4	1
Premature birth	4	3
Con. mal. birth inj. infant disease	6	3
Suicide	2	2
Road traffic accidents	2	2
Other violent causes	7	3
All other causes	13	12
	200	163

An analysis of the above causes of death shows that once again Heart Disease and associated conditions are the principal causes of death, with Cancer next on the list.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services of the Area.

The details of the Staff are given at the beginning of the Report.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

As in previous years the examination of pathological specimens was carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Northallerton. The system of collection, on notice being given, by the Laboratory Staff directly has worked very successfully and has ensured that specimens have reached the Laboratory with the minimum of delay. The

Director of the Laboratory is always available for consultation on any bacteriological problem and his assistance has at times proved to be of the utmost value.

During the year 29 specimens were sent to the laboratory for the following diseases: —

Diphtheria, 18 specimens; Suspected Dysentery, 4 specimens; Meningitis, 7 specimens.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

As in previous years this Council maintained two ambulances for use in connection with the removal of cases of Infectious Disease to the Isolation Hospital. These ambulances passed to the North Riding County Council on the 5th July and from that date the removal of cases of Infectious Disease was the responsibility of the County Council.

In a similar way the St. John Ambulance Brigade maintained a voluntary ambulance service for the removal of general cases and accidents until the 5th July. During that period, as in previous years, this Council gave a substantial grant to the St. John's Brigade to help them with this work. On the appointed day the St. John Ambulance Brigade became the agents of the County Council for general ambulance work. I think that it is appropriate that I should here pay tribute to the great work that the local St. John's Brigade did in this district voluntarily for so many years. I am indebted to Mr. J. McCallum, Superintendent of the St. John's Brigade, for the following brief report on the work done by the ambulance service in this district during the year: —

“The total number of patients carried during the year was 1,510 and the number of miles travelled by the Ambulances 16,993 miles.

692	Patients from their homes to hospital.
310	“ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ for treatment
	(Out patients)
138	Works accident cases.
59	Home accident cases.
62	Maternity cases.
11	Street accidents.
238	Patients discharged from hospital to their homes.”

1510

NURSING IN THE HOMES

For many years there have been three Nursing Associations in this district. The South Bank Association, The Eston, Normanby, Ormesby and Wilton Association, and the Grangetown Association. It has been my privilege and pleasure in the past to pay some tribute to the great work that has been done by these Nursing Associations. Together they employed some 9 whole-time fully qualified nurses, and throughout the years they have rendered a voluntary service of the very highest order. Only those who have had contact with a Nursing Association can appreciate the great amount of work that was necessary to maintain the funds to keep the Associations going and there are in each of these three Associations ladies and gentlemen who deserve the greatest gratitude from this community for the labour they gave to this noble work. On the 5th July, Nursing Associations ceased to have the responsibility of maintaining a home nursing service and that duty passed to the County Council. It will indeed be a great pity if all this magnificent voluntary work is allowed to lapse and if those great workers in the Nursing Associations cannot find some other outlet for their great humanity and their love to serve their fellow men. Much is to be hoped for from the New Health Act, but much that is good in social work will be lost if the voluntary spirit as shown in the Nursing Associations cannot be maintained in some form or other.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

All clinics and treatment centres in the area are under the control of the North Riding County Council.

HOSPITALS — PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY

As already indicated, the two hospitals in this area—The Infectious Diseases Hospital and Eston Hospital—have passed to the control of the Regional Hospital Board. The Infectious Diseases Hospital is managed by the Cleveland Hospital Management Committee, while the Eston Hospital is managed by the Tees-side Hospital Management Committee.

SECTIONS C, D and E.

Details of the circumstances in the area coming under these sections are dealt with in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION F.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.

As compared with the previous year, there is nothing that calls for special comment so far as the incidence of Infectious Disease is concerned. There was a slight increase in the number of cases of Measles and a marked decrease in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever. As in previous years I have encouraged practitioners in the area to send in to Hospital any case in which there was the slightest possibility of Diphtheria. Of 12 such cases sent to Hospital, 2 proved to be definite cases of Diphtheria and both cases recovered.

Infectious Diseases amongst Children in the area:

SCARLET FEVER: 28 cases occurred in children under 5 years and 71 amongst school children. Practically all these cases were of the mild and uncomplicated type.

DIPHTHERIA: 2 cases of Diphtheria occurred in children under 5 and no cases amongst school children. In one case the child had been immunised—this case was clinically very severe and bacteriologically was of the Gravis Type. I am convinced after many anxious weeks of watching in this case, that the previous immunisation was sufficient to turn the scales to a favourable result.

MEASLES: 279 cases occurred in children under 5 and 147 in school children. One death from Measles occurred in a child under 2 years of age.

WHOOPING COUGH: 37 cases occurred in children under 5 and 11 in school children.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

As in previous years, the vast majority of children immunised were dealt with at the School Clinics in South Bank and Grangetown. During the year 556 children under 5 years and 80 children of school age were immunised, and in addition, 635 children of school age received reinforcing doses.

In December, 1948, a complete survey was made of the School Medical Record Cards of all the children in all the schools in the district and in addition the Infant Welfare Cards of all children of pre-school years were examined to determine if they had been immunised. It was thus hoped to obtain as nearly as possible a complete picture as to the state of immunisation in all children under 15 years in the district at the end of 1948. The following table gives an analysis of the findings:—

Age at 31.12.48.

Under 5 years

Age Group	No. in Group	No. immunised	Percentage immunised
0—1 year	634	33	5.2
1—2 years	726	441	60.7
2—3 years	613	456	74
3—4 years	514	396	77
4—5 years	664	547	82

Of 3,151 children under 5 years of age, 1,873 or 60% have been immunised.

Of 2,517 children over 1 and under 5 years, 1,840 or 72% have been immunised.

School Children

Age Group	No. in Group	No. immunised	Percentage immunised
5—6 years	533	454	85
6—7 years	517	464	90
7—8 years	536	498	93
8—9 years	572	546	95.5
9—10 years	579	556	96

Of 2,737 children in the age group 5—10 years, 2,518 or 92% have been immunised.

Age Group	No. in Group	No. immunised	Percentage immunised
10—11 years	595	573	96.3
11—12 years	493	472	95.8
12—13 years	502	481	96
13—14 years	452	442	97.7
14—15 years	559	548	98

In the age group 10 and under 15, of 2,601 children 2,516 or 96% have been immunised.

Of the 8,489 children under 15 years, 6,907 or 82% have been immunised.

Number of cases of Diphtheria in district in past 6 years:

1943	...	...	49
1944	...	...	44
1945	...	...	24
1946	...	...	14
1947	...	...	5
1948	...	...	2

In Circular 40/49, the standard set by the Ministry is "to secure at the earliest suitable age the immunising of at least 75% of all children reaching the age of 1 year." To the extent that we reach this standard among children of 3 years of age, our campaign can be regarded as reasonably satisfactory. In so far as school children are concerned, approximately 94% are immunised, and in this age group our campaign has been most satisfactory. There can be no doubt that most of our success is due to the efforts of the Health Visitors who have done a tremendous amount of really hard work in their endeavours to have children immunised. To most people the reference above to the number of cases of Diphtheria in this district in the past 6 years gives adequate proof of the value of immunisation in preventing Diphtheria. Unfortunately there are still too many parents in this district who are either too lazy or too indifferent to have their children protected. Despite all the efforts of the Health Visitors, together with the willing co-operation of the Head Teachers, there are still 1,500 children under 15 years not protected by immunisation. With the vast majority of the parents of these children, the position is that we have come up against a blank wall of sheer indifference, and no effort seems capable of moving them. Dramatic as has been the fall in the cases of Diphtheria, I am of the opinion that if we think this excellent result will be maintained, we are living in a fool's paradise, unless we can get at those children who have not been immunised. So long as we have 1,500 children not immunised, we are always liable to get an outbreak of Diphtheria amongst them.

I have already pointed out that the full protection conferred by immunisation lasts about 4 years. It is therefore desirable that those children who are immunised in infancy should receive a further protecting dose before they start school. I am very well pleased with the success we have had in our efforts to give this reinforcing dose to as many infants entering school as possible.

ANALYSIS OF THE TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) IN AGE GROUPS

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED														TOTAL DEATHS										
Disease	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	1	2	4	6	15	43	28	7	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	22	62	71	74	50	140	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	9	6	9	10	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	4	5	3	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	13
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	26	73	81	91	75	193	37	11	11	6	7	6	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	13

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a table of particulars of infectious diseases treated at the Isolation Hospital during 1948.

Disease	No. of cases admitted	No. in at 31.12.47	No. of cases discharged or died	No. in hospital at 31.12.48
Scarlet Fever ...	97	13	109	1
Scarlet with Chicken-pox ...	3	—	3	—
Scarlet with German Measles ...	1	—	1	—
Gastro-enteritis ...	5	—	5	—
Diphtheria or suspected Diphtheria	12	—	10	2
Congenital Stenosis ...	1	—	1	—
T.B. Meningitis ...	1	—	1	—
C.S. Meningitis ...	1	—	1	—
Suspected Meningitis	4	—	4	—
Erysipelas ...	3	—	3	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	5	—	5	—
Septic abortion ...	1	—	1	—
Measles ...	2	—	2	—
Pneumonia with Measles ...	1	—	1	—
Pemphigus ...	1	—	1	—
Chickenpox ...	1	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis ...	—	1	1	—
	140	14	150	4

Of the 12 cases of Diphtheria admitted, 10 were negative and 2 positive. No fatal cases.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE WARDS

WARD	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria or suspected Diph.	Whooping Cough	Cerebro Spinal Fever or suspected C.S.F.	Pneumonia	Puerperal Fever	Erysipelas	Dysentery
North West	30	15	1	5	1	2	2	—	—
Grangetown	129	8	1	2	3	—	2	1	—
Normanby	27	20	2	16	—	3	—	1	1
Harcourt ...	18	10	1	6	—	—	1	2	—
Branch ...	10	5	2	1	—	4	—	1	—
Central ...	156	35	4	11	1	5	—	1	—
South Bank	18	11	—	2	—	2	—	1	—
Tilery ...	39	4	1	5	—	1	1	—	—
	427	108	12	48	5	17	6	7	1

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year and of all deaths from this disease are shown in the following table in age groups:—

Age periods	CASES NOTIFIED				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and 5 years	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
5 and 10 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 and 15 years	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 and 20 years	1	6	—	—	2	—	—	—
20 and 25 years	1	7	—	—	—	1	—	—
25 and 35 years	6	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
35 and 45 years	5	1	—	—	2	3	—	—
45 and 55 years	6	4	—	—	2	2	—	—
55 and 65 years	3	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
65 years and over	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
	27	26	1	3	8	8	—	—

The total number of cases notified shows an increase of 14 as compared with 1947. The deaths from this cause show a decrease of 5 on those for the previous year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1948

To the Chairman and Members of the
Eston Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to submit to you this, my first Annual Report, relative to the work of the Sanitary and Cleansing Department, for the year 1948. My period of seniority did not commence until the latter half of the year was in progress, therefore most of the credit for the works completed by the Department during the year must be given to my predecessor, whose most capable administrative ability placed a well-organised Department at my disposal.

Improvement has been gradually shown throughout the year in regard to the execution of works of repair to dwelling houses. This is accounted for in the main by the gradual increase in the available supplies of Building Materials and Labour. However, the time has not yet arrived when one can serve for other than most essential repairs and confidently expect to get the work completed without difficulties being encountered.

A considerable number of visits have been entailed in the supervision of Food Preparing premises. Registration has been enforced and structural improvements have been obtained where same has been deemed necessary to comply with legislative standards. More detail of this type of work is given under Section E.

The work of Refuse Collection and Salvage Collection has been steadily maintained throughout the year. It will be noted that there has been a considerable increase in the Salvage returns for this year over that of the previous one, which gives room for a certain amount of satisfaction.

In conclusion I would like to express my appreciation to the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and the Medical Officer of Health for their great interest and assistance towards the successful working of the Department. The spirit of cordiality existing between the Staff of this Department and of other Departments is very much appreciated and this has in no small measure contributed to this year's successful conclusion. My thanks are tendered to the Staff of the Health Department and the workmen of the Cleansing Department for their loyal support during my period of settling into the position of seniority.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

J. H. BURROWS,

Senior Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year: —

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	209
(b)	(1) For Local Authority—Permanent	179
	(2) —Temporary	25
	(3) Other than Local Authority	5

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year: —

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	2,002
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	2,790
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	nil
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	nil
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	2,002

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices: —

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	2,355
---	-------

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year: —

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936: —	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By Owners	nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	2

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—			
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	27
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after the service of notices:—			
(a) By Owners	...	...	71
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—			
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...		nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—			
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit	...	...	nil

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.

No official figures can be given as to the degree of overcrowding at present existing in the District, and whilst it is appreciated that much overcrowding does exist, it would be good policy if in the ensuing year a Survey of the District was put into effect.

Approximately 700 applications were received in the Housing Department for Council Houses during the year; of these, approximately 228 families were re-housed; an analysis of the different types of tenants being as follows:—

Overcrowded families re-housed	...	...	46
Sub-tenants re-housed—General	...	...	20
Ex-Service	...	...	83
Tuberculosis in family, re-housed	...	...	22
Squatters re-housed	...	...	4
Properties demolished for Industrial Development—Tenants re-housed			
	...	...	10
Aged Persons re-housed	...	...	10
Key Workers housed	...	...	28
Special cases re-housed	...	...	5

WATER

During the year the Department received no complaints regarding the quality and quantity of water supply.

Water is supplied throughout the whole of this District by the Tees Valley Water Board who are the bulk suppliers of water in the Tees-side area. There are no houses within the area which derive water from any source other than that of mains supply.

The Tees Valley Water Board inspectorate have obtained samples for chemical and bacteriological analysis during the year, and the results obtained indicate that the water is satisfactory in quality and quantity. It is not liable to plumbo-solvent action and possesses a low degree of hardness.

The total number of houses in the area having a piped water supply is 8,524.

I am indebted to Mr. T. S. R. Winter, Engineer and General Manager of the Tees Valley Water Board, for a summary of analysis results for the year and which is appended herewith: —

RIVER TEES SUPPLY, DARLINGTON

Summary of Results — 1948

Appearance—Clear and bright.

Odour—Nil.

					Average	Maximum	Minimum
pH	...	...	...	...	7.3	7.7	7.0
Colour (Hazen)		...	...		58	150	18
Free Carbon Dioxide	...		...		5	7	3
Total Solids	...	...	...		139	205	90
Chlorides	...	...	...		9	11	7
Total Alkalinity		...	...		67	105	45
Total Hardness		...	...		88	130	55
Temporary Hardness	...		...		67	105	45
Permanent Hardness	...		...		21	40	10
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...		...		0.4	2.0	nil
Nitrogen in Nitrites	...		...		0.01	0.01	0.01
Free Ammonia	...		...		0.022	0.072	nil
Albumenoid Ammonia			...		0.086	0.200	0.038
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C.	...	...	...		5.51	12.80	1.70
Iron	...	...	...		0.10	0.21	0.03

Chemical Results expressed in Parts per Million

Bacteriological Results

	Aver- age	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum
Bacteria on Agar at 37°C. per ml. 1 day	6	26	1
Bacteria on Agar at 37°C. per ml. 2 days	9	28	1
Bacteria on Agar at 20°C. per ml. 3 days	12	65	1
Percentage of samples giving presumptive B. Coli reaction per 100 ml. ...		nil	
Percentage of samples giving Cl. Welchii reaction per 100 ml. ...		96	
Percentage of samples giving Cl. Welchii reaction per 10 ml. ...		nil	

LARTINGTON GRAVITATION SUPPLY

Summary of Results — 1948

Appearance—Clear and Bright.

Odour—Nil.

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
pH ...	7.0	7.7	6.9
Colour (Hazen) ...	75	140	30
Free Carbon Dioxide ...	6	8	nil
Total Solids ...	85	95	75
Chlorides ...	7	9	5
Total Alkalinity ...	40	45	30
Total Hardness ...	50	60	35
Temporary Hardness ...	40	45	30
Permanent Hardness ...	10	20	5
Nitrogen in Nitrates ...	0.05	0.6	nil
Nitrogen in Nitrites ...	0.01	0.01	nil
Free Ammonia ...	0.035	0.140	0.006
Albumenoid Ammonia ...	0.083	0.150	0.046
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37°C. ...	6.80	11.40	3.30
Iron ...	0.14	0.22	0.08

Chemical Results expressed in Parts per Million

Bacteriological Results

	Aver- age	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum
Bacteria on Agar at 37°C. per ml. 1 day	8	40	nil
Bacteria on Agar at 37°C. per ml. 2 days	14	60	nil
Bacteria on Agar at 20°C. per ml. 3 days	8	46	1
Percentage of samples giving presumptive B. Coli reaction per 100 ml. ...		nil	
Percentage of samples giving Cl. Welchii reaction per 100 ml. ...		77	
Percentage of samples giving Cl. Welchii reaction per 10 ml. ...		nil	

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The whole of this area, with the exception of a few cottages at Low Lackenby, is on the water carriage system. The property mentioned is shortly to be demolished as part of the huge industrial scheme which is now under development in this part of the area.

The District, being riparian, discharges its sewage into the tidal flow of the River Tees. There have been no major developments regarding the laying of new sewers, but the Council have had under review throughout the year the installation of a New Trunk Sewer and treatment plant to service the needs of the District and the Industrial concerns at present under construction, and I understand that the construction of the New Trunk Sewer is to be commenced in the near future.

Two small housing estates situated on the outskirts of the District and without the reach of a public sewer are drained each to a small Sewage Disposal Plant. One plant is maintained by the Local Authority and the other by an industrial concern.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Towards the end of the year negotiations were commenced with an industrial concern regarding stream pollution by the improperly treated effluent discharged from their Sewage Disposal Works. The firm have agreed to carry out suggested structural improvements to the percolating Filter Beds and this work is to be put in hand as soon as the necessary materials are obtained.

The majority of the streams in this District are non-offensive in nature owing to the fact that as the District is sewered there is no faecal pollution and the streams are mainly fast flowing with surface water from the adjoining hills.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There are approximately 8,450 water closets situated in this area. As previously stated, practically the whole of the District is serviced by the water carriage system with the exception of 16 (sixteen) houses at Low Lackenby and 11 (eleven) Squatters' Huts at Teesport. These 27 (twenty-seven) properties are fitted with pail closets which are serviced weekly by the Council. The houses at Low Lackenby are shortly to be demolished as being part of the Industrial Development which is at present taking place in this part of the District.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE

It was not deemed necessary to put into effect any change in policy regarding the administration of this Department. A regular collection of refuse has been maintained throughout the year and the addition of a new Refuse Vehicle to the existing fleet of four vehicles has assisted very much towards the efficient working of the Service.

The annual cost of Collection and Disposal of Refuse amounted to £8,720, whilst that of Street Sweeping amounted to £5,420. These costs show an increase over those of the previous year, which is accounted for in the main by expansion of the District and the improved conditions of service granted to the workmen during the year by the Northern Provincial Council for Local Authorities. The latter being the introduction of the 44-hour working week, Consolidation of the War Bonus, introduction of wage increases and the new Sickness Pay Scheme.

A considerable amount of time has been lost by the workmen due to sickness which has tended to increase costs through sickness payments.

For your information I have itemised the lost time and costs due to sickness for this year, and for comparison I have indicated, in brackets, the lost time and costs due to sickness payments for the year 1947:—

SICK PAY—FULL				SICK PAY—HALF				ABSENCE
Days		Amount		Days		Amount		Days
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.	
569		418	6 7	84		35	5 4	160
(514)		(376	7 10)	(144)		(59	11 8)	(195)

Refuse Collection

Owing to the rather mild winter it was found possible to maintain a regular weekly collection throughout the year. A new Refuse Collection Vehicle was delivered in April, 1948, which greatly assisted towards the efficient and smooth working of the Department. There is now a total of five vehicles employed on this work and there has been an increase in the work of the Department due to the number of newly constructed houses occupied during the year. The number of dwelling houses built per annum is being steadily increased and it will be advisable to consider in the very near future the acquisition of another Refuse Collection Vehicle so as to cope with the additional work which will be necessitated with the completion of the housing programme of 1949.

Refuse Disposal

The method used for disposal has been that of Controlled Tip-ping after the recovery of salvageable materials. The present tip at Low Lackenby does not provide for another twelve months working and some other suitable site will need to be obtained at an early date. The present tip was originally a low-lying waterlogged piece of land which is now almost reclaimed and is to form part of the land scheduled for industrial development in this part of the District.

Salvage

This service is worked in conjunction with Refuse Collection. The vehicles are fitted with trailers and the workmen collect salvage and refuse during the same visit.

The incentive bonus scheme is operated by your Council and each workman received his bonus monthly, calculated from the monthly financial income from sales of materials.

There was an appreciable increase in the collection of waste paper and kitchen waste during the year. This was accounted for in the main by campaigning and canvassing of householders. The majority of the kitchen waste obtained is collected from Works and School Canteens. Very little of this commodity is obtained from householders, who in the main either keep it for stock of their own or save it for friends. There are also a number of licensed Kitchen Waste Collectors in the District who service some of the canteens and I am of opinion that improvement of collection figures relative to this commodity cannot be expected.

This year's increased collection of salvage has accounted for a financial income from sales of £1,500, which gives a certain amount of satisfaction when compared with the previous year's financial return of £988. The increase is accounted for in the main from the sales of waste paper, which has a good market value.

Street Sweeping

This work is carried out by manual labour organised on the "Beat System." An appreciable amount of inconvenience and neglect in this work has been caused through absences of workmen due to sickness.

With the gradual expansion of Housing Estates the amount of sweeping has increased to approximately 63 miles, 22 miles of this figure being back streets. Sweeping relative to back streets has been considerably simplified in those parts of the area where the air raid shelters have been demolished; however, there are still parts of the District where the remaining air raid shelters are an encumbrance to efficient cleansing.

County Roads of approximately 12.69 miles have continued to be swept and weeded by the Department, the cost of this work being borne jointly by the County Council and your Authority.

Gully Cleaning

The Motor Gully Emptier was delivered in the early part of the year and commenced duties in the District towards the end of February. The machine has proved itself to be most efficient and on an average each street gully is serviced once per every eight weeks. The number of street gullies attended to during the year was 12,191.

Sewer Flushing

This work is now carried out most expeditiously and efficiently with the aid of the Motor Gully Emptier. The machine has a capacity of 750 gallons, and can be readily available in case of emergency.

Snow Removal and Gritting

The winter of 1947-48 did not necessitate the Snow Removal as was expected from the experience of the previous winter. A number of exceptionally hard frosts occurred during the winter which necessitated the expenditure of £274 on the gritting of main roads. As the majority of this work is confined to County Roads the major portion of the expenditure is recoverable by your Authority from that of the County.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following is a tabulated statement of the number and nature of the inspections carried out during the year under the various Acts, Orders and Bye-laws in force within the District:—

Dwelling houses inspected under Public Health Act, etc. ...	2,221
Dwelling houses (re-inspection) under above	1,041
Interviews with Builders, Owners and others	1,072
Complaints investigated	697
Inspection of:—	
Bakehouses	21
Dairies, Cowsheds	46
Slaughterhouses and Distributing Depot	332
Markets and Food Stores	131
Factories and Workplaces	67
Schools	6
Public Halls and other Buildings	33
Fish and Fried Fish Shops	73
Conveniences (Public)	41
Rat Infested Premises	549
Infectious Disease	259
Fumigations	140
Drain Examinations	261
Registered Preparation Rooms—Food and Drugs Act	106
Scavenging, Cleansing and Salvage	336
Houses Let in Lodgings	10
Miscellaneous Visits not enumerated above	330

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER NOTICES SERVED

The various works completed during the year under notices served or on intimation to owners or occupiers are as appended below:—

HOUSE AND GENERAL

Number of:—

Chimney and roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	967
Spoutings and rainwater pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	459
Walls rebuilt or repaired	...	...	...	...	178
Floors relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	106
Ceilings and plasters repaired	...	...	...	...	722
Window frames and sash cords repaired	...	...	...	...	170
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	210
Doors and frames repaired	...	...	...	...	285
Sinks and waste pipes repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	144
Setpots repaired	...	...	...	...	73
House water supplies repaired	...	...	...	...	95
Yard surfaces relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	23
Refuse bins renewed	...	...	...	...	627
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	15
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	3

House Drainage

Drains tested, relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	30
New gullies, traps or grids provided	...	...	...	...	54
Stoppages in drains removed by Owners	...	...	...	...	105
Stoppages in drains removed by Council without Notices being served	...	...	...	...	911

Water Closets

Water supplies repaired	...	...	...	...	309
Cisterns renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	110
Basins renewed	...	...	...	...	67
Seats and flush pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	81
Stoppages in drains removed by Owners	...	...	...	...	57
Stoppages in drains removed by Council without Notices being served	...	...	...	...	209

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in use within this District.

COMPLAINTS

During the year 697 complaints were received in the Department. Of these, practically half the number was relative to housing repairs.

The flow of Building materials and labour gradually increased during the year making the position of housing repair works much easier.

The supply of refuse bins became more plentiful and it will be noted that a total of 627 Portable Bins was supplied after service of notices.

A total of 1,120 drain stoppages was cleared by the Department's workmen by means of plunging, without the necessity of serving notices. This arrangement has been in effect for many years and is an efficient and ready means of abating objectionable nuisances of this type.

The number and nature of complaints were: —

Stoppages in yard and water closet drains	86
For the repair of houses	316
Dilapidated refuse bins	100
Verminous conditions	76
Defective water services	50
Miscellaneous	69

SHOPS

The number of shop premises visited during the year was 134. In 13 of these, infringements under Section 10 of the 1934 Act were found to exist and were put in order without having to resort to formal action.

Early closing was still in vogue throughout the year in the majority of shops and no doubt will stay in existence until such time as goods are in more plentiful supply.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The major part of atmospheric pollution in this District can be attributed to the Heavy Steel Industry and Coke Oven Plants. The present legislative control does not extend to include this type of industry to be within the purview of creating "Statutory Smoke Nuisance."

Coke oven practice as in force to-day does leave much room for improvement. Here we have grit and sulphur compounds freely emitted to the atmosphere throughout the processing. The Ministry through their own inspectorate can suggest no remedy; the only solution is in my opinion for each Authority to give full support to the National Smoke Abatement Society, who, through their efforts in research and propaganda, may be able to effect improvement on a national basis.

I am happy to state that your Authority are members of the National Smoke Abatement Society and are represented on the North Eastern Divisional Council of same.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are no Public Swimming Baths or Pools within the Urban District. However, there is a demand for such, and no doubt the matter will be given favourable consideration by your Authority when the opportune period for constructing buildings of this type does arrive.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS, FLEAS AND COCKROACHES

During the year 68 houses were treated for verminous conditions. The insecticide used with good effect consisted of a mixture of Lethane, D.D.T. and Kerosine. The former providing a quick "knock out" and the D.D.T. the persistency as is required to make disinfection effective.

It is the practice of the Department to inspect the premises and furniture of all new Council tenants prior to them moving into Council property. This has controlled the possibility of carrying vermin from an infested property during removal.

A considerable amount of verminous furniture and bedding was removed and destroyed during the year. The practice being to obtain the consent of owner prior to removing and destroying the materials.

FACTORIES

A total of 65 routine inspections were carried out during the year. Six notices were served relative to defects found and in three cases insufficient sanitary accommodation was found to exist. In each of these the work was in hand but uncompleted at the end of the year.

There are no Out-Workers listed with this Authority.

A copy of Form 572 Factories Act 1937 and 1948 is appended herewith.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of
the year 1948 for the Urban District of Eston in the
County of Yorkshire.

PART I. OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	18	24	3	—
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	51	36	3	—
iii. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	5	5	—	—
Total ...	74	65	6	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Reme- died	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork))	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	6	3	—	1	—

PART VIII. OF THE ACT OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

There was a NIL return in respect of OUTWORK for the year.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

There was no alteration of arrangements in regard to Meat supplies of this District for the year. All Home Killed and Imported Meats continue to be dealt with in the neighbouring County Borough under the direction of the Ministry of Food. The meats are allocated

here and conveyed to the local Meat Depot in South Bank for distribution to the various butchers.

All Home Killed Meat allocated to this area is slaughtered and dressed in the Ministry of Food Controlled Slaughterhouse situated in the adjoining County Borough. The amount of handling found to be necessary prior to delivery of the commodity to the customer does in no small measure contribute to the deterioration in appearance and quality of the commodity. However, the present arrangements cannot be improved upon until such time as rationing of meat ceases to be in operation. It may be then that the special needs of the area would require the provision of a Local Authority owned Public Abattoir to serve the needs of local butchers. This would mean that the meat would be slaughtered, inspected and distributed under the supervision of your own Health Officials, and the pre-war unsatisfactory arrangements as were known to exist due to the use of Private Slaughterhouses would not be allowed to return. However, local planning cannot be determined until such time as the Government policy on meat is defined.

All meats received at the South Bank Depot are inspected by one of the Health Department Staff prior to their being distributed for sale. All meats condemned are certificated and returned to the Ministry of Food Controlled Slaughterhouse in the adjoining County Borough to be used for manufacturing into commodities other than those intended for human food.

684 visits were made during the year in connection with the inspection of meat and other foods. The total amount of meat, exclusive of offals, which passed through the South Bank Distributing Depot was:—

Home Killed				Imported			
Sides of Beef	...	...	2,069	Quarters of Beef	...	...	3,136
Calves	...	...	65	Calves	...	...	nil
Pigs	...	...	123	Pigs	...	...	70
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	3,421	Sheep and Lambs	...	...	15,254

Other Imported and Tinned Meats

Pork Joints	...	...	77 bags
Corned Meats	...	...	131,814 lbs.

227 Self Suppliers' Pigs slaughtered under Ministry of Food licences were examined by the Staff of the Department.

The undermentioned meats and foodstuffs were found on inspection to be unfit for human consumption and were subsequently destroyed or used for purposes other than human food: —

English Beef	...	...	...	...	208 lbs.
Imported Beef	...	...	...	...	499 lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	15 lbs.
Cooking Fat	...	...	...	...	224 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	18 lbs.
Fresh Fruit	...	...	...	...	30 lbs.
Dried Fruit—Dates	...	...	...	...	4 boxes
Fish—Wet	...	...	...	...	35 stones
Tinned Fruit	...	...	...	...	48 tins
„ Preserves	...	...	...	...	95 tins
„ Vegetables	...	...	...	...	89 tins
„ Cereals	...	...	...	...	23 tins
„ Soups	...	...	...	...	64 tins
„ Meats	...	...	...	...	23 tins
„ Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	370 tins
„ Milk	...	...	...	...	79 tins
„ Fish	...	...	...	...	41 tins
Pickles	...	...	...	...	89 jars
Tinned Bacon	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Dried Egg	...	...	...	...	35 packets
Pudding and other powders	...	...	...	...	557 packets

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

The number of Slaughtermen's Licences issued during the year was 23. Whilst there was no regular slaughtering taking place within the district, these slaughtermen had acquired licences relative to the slaughtering and dressing of Self Suppliers' Pigs.

Registered Food Preparation Rooms

At the close of the year there were 18 (eighteen) Food Preparation Rooms registered with your Authority, excluding manufacturers and vendors of ice cream. The registrations entailed numerous visits by the Inspectors to all Butchers' Premises and Fish Preparation Rooms before they were brought up to the standard as is required by the Food and Drugs Legislation. Difficulty was found to exist in the obtaining of Gas and Electric Hot Water Heaters; however, the position had somewhat improved towards the end of the year.

In all, the work required and completed prior to registration of these preparation rooms was: —

Walls and ceilings repaired and redecorated	14
Roofs repaired	2
Sinks with hot and cold water provided ...	2
Drains relaid	1

Food Stores and Markets

131 visits were made to Food Stores during the year. It is now the recognised practice for vendors to notify the Department on receiving any doubtful or obviously unfit foodstuffs. The foodstuffs are then inspected and certified as being unfit so that the shopkeeper can claim recompense from the Wholesale Supplier, and points value (where same applies) from the Ministry of Food.

The weekly street market continues to flourish and as goods become more plentiful stallholders are continuing to increase in number.

Bakehouses

There are 10 (ten) Bakehouses registered with your Authority. Each of the premises was visited at least twice within the year and all were found to be in a reasonable state of cleanliness.

Fish Shops

73 visits were made to Fish Frying premises and Wet Fish Shops. At six fish frying premises work of cleansing and redecorating was found to be necessary and was completed without the necessity of resorting to Formal action.

MILK SUPPLY

Cowsheds and Dairies

There are 11 (eleven) Cowsheds in the District and the approximate number of dairy cows kept by the producers concerned was 147. Three of the producers send the whole of their milk supply to a Pasteurising Establishment situated in the adjoining County Borough; three of the producers retail within your area; whilst the remaining five are wholesale suppliers to dairymen within your District.

There are 7 (seven) Dairies registered with your Authority, all of whom hold "Dealers' Licences" to retail Tuberculin-Tested Milk. This milk is supplied ready-bottled from dairy premises holding "Principal Licences" issued by the neighbouring County Borough Authority.

There are 4 (four) dairies situated outside your District which retail within this area and are issued with "Supplementary Licences" from your Authority relative to the purveying of "Tuberculin Tested" and "Pasteurised" milks in this District.

During the year 18 (eighteen) visits were made to cowsheds and 28 (twenty-eight) to dairy premises. All were found to be of a reasonable standard of cleanliness.

Milk Sampling

23 (twenty-three) informal samples were obtained and tested in the Department for Chemical Analysis. The highest fat content recorded was 5.2%, while the lowest was 3%, the average of all samples being 3.8%. None of the samples recorded a "Solids not Fat" reading of less than is required under the Sale of Milk Regulations 1939, namely 8.5%.

Towards the end of the year advantage was taken of the facility offered by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Northallerton. 18 (eighteen) samples of milk were submitted for Bacteriological Analysis, 11 (eleven) proving to be satisfactory and 7 (seven) unsatisfactory. The unsatisfactory samples were all of Ungraded milk, 4 (four) being from producers without the District and 3 (three) from producers within this District. After negotiation and interviews follow-up samples were obtained and in each case a satisfactory result was the outcome.

It is most noticeable that each sample of Pasteurised milk proved to be satisfactory.

I append herewith a copy of the Analysis Results.

"S." indicating SATISFACTORY.

"N.S." indicating NOT SATISFACTORY.

Sample No.	Designation	Methylene Blue Test	Coliform Test	Phosphatase Test
1.	Pasteurised (School Milk)	S.	—	S.
2.	Ungraded	S.	N.S.	—
3.	"	S.	N.S.	—
4.	"	N.S.	N.S.	—
5.	"	S.	N.S.	—
6.	"	S.	N.S.	—
7.	"	S.	S.	—
8.	"	S.	S.	—
9.	"	S.	S.	—
10.	"	S.	S.	—
11.	"	S.	S.	—
12.	Pasteurised	S.	—	S.
13.	Pasteurised (School Milk)	S.	—	S.
14.	Ungraded	N.S.	S.	—
15.	"	N.S.	S.	—
16.	"	S.	S.	—
17.	"	S.	S.	—
18.	"	S.	S.	—

Ice Cream

There are 22 (twenty-two) premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. These are comprised of 5 (five) manufacturers and 17 (seventeen) as vendors only. The latter are all shopkeepers who are selling this commodity in addition to other confectionery; refrigerators for storage, together with hot water installation on tap, are demanded before registration is recommended.

With the advent of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1947, 3 (three) of the manufacturers commenced to use "Cold Mix," whilst the other 2 (two) have plants of modern and hygienic construction, containing suitable apparatus for Heat Treatment processing.

Towards the end of the year 6 (six) samples of ice cream were obtained and submitted for Bacteriological Analysis, the results being as follows:—

5 Samples — Provisional Grade 1.

1 Sample — Provisional Grade 3.

No further samples were obtained during the year, but regular sampling of the Commodity is anticipated during the coming summer season.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION

399 (three hundred and ninety nine) visits were made relative to Infectious Disease Prevontion. After removal of the patient, the premises were visited, enquiries and inspection were carried out, and terminal disinfection was put into effect. Visits were made in connection with a number of "Home Treated" cases of Scarlet Fever, here Terminal disinfection was carried out on receipt of a certificate of clearance from the practitioner attending the patient.

The undermentioned is an analysis of the premises disinfected during the year:—

	Houses	Rooms	Cause
	104	314	Scarlet Fever.
	11	37	Diphtheria.
	20	46	Tuberculosis.
	20	40	Other medical causes.
Total	155	437	

PETROLEUM STORAGE

This work was carried out by the Department until the retirement of the Senior Sanitary Inspector in June, when the duties were transferred to the Department of the Engineer and Surveyor.

RODENT CONTROL

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919, and
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

During the year 549 visits were made in connection with the control of Rats and Mice infestation. 80 (eighty) infested properties were dealt with and the public sewers of the area were subjected to 2 (two) Maintenance Treatments. The number of manholes treated was 560 during the first Maintenance and 561 during the second Maintenance, a total of 1,121 manholes. Each manhole was pre-baited on two successive days followed by poison baiting on the third day.

Private dwelling houses within the area were disinfested free of cost to the occupiers, your Authority having resolved to take advantage of the 50% "Block Financial Grant" as offered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, under Circular N.S.19. This legislation offers financial assistance to schemes of treatment approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Rodent Division).

The records of the work carried out during the year were submitted to the Ministry and have been approved for financial grant.

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